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Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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TRSE-00 L-03 ICA-11 /086 W
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R 150158Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0362
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOR AMB. JEAN WILKOWSKI; OES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TATT, OVIP, JA
SUBJECT: VISIT OF FATHER THEODORE HESBURGH TO JAPAN

REF: STATE 168379

1. FATHER THEODORE M. HESBURGH, PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AND HEAD OF U.S. DELEGATION TO 1979 U.N. CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT, MADE BRIEF BUT INTENSIVE WORKING STOP IN TOKYO AUG. 12-14, TO DISCUSS U.S. EFFORTS TO PREPARE FOR UNCSTD AND TO SOLICIT EXPANDED JAPANESE PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION IN CONFERENCE.

2. AT DINNER GIVEN IN HIS HONOR AUG. 12 (ATTENDED BY AMB. AND MRS. MANSFIELD AND OTHER SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICIALS), FATHER HESBURGH MET OFFICIALS FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, PRIME MINISTER'S COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND SCIENCE COUNCIL OF JAPAN DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN JAPANESE PREPARATIONS FOR CONFERENCE.
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3 . SERIES OF MEETINGS MORNING OF AUG. 14 WERE HELD BY FATHER HESBURGH AND AMB. MANSFIELD, BEGINNING WITH CALL ON DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HIROMICHI MIYAZAKI; ALSO PRESENT WERE MOFA OFFICIALS ATSUHIKO YATABE, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL AFFAIRS, AND YOSHIO OKAWA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF UNITED NATIONS AFFAIRS

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BUREAU. FATHER HESBURGH OUTLINED MEANS BY WHICH U.S. NATIONAL REPORT WAS BEING PREPARED AND ITS GENERAL SUBSTANCE. HE EMPHASIZED NEED FOR ADVANCED NATIONS TO RID FOURTH WORLD OF ABJECT POVERTY, HUNGER, AND DISEASE, THEREBY SECURING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS FOR LEAST DEVELOPED AREAS OF WORLD. HE ALSO DESCRIBED MECHANISM PROPOSED FOR U.S. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE BY YEAR 2000

(THE FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION), BUT POINTED OUT THAT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THE CONCEPT HAD NOT YET BEEN OBTAINED. MIYAZAKI DESCRIBED STATUS OF JAPANESE REPORT IN RETURN, AND NOTED THAT GOJ ALSO HAD IN MIND AN ORGANIZATION SIMILAR TO FITC, IN THIS CASE THE JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY. ALTHOUGH JICA IS ALREADY IN EXISTENCE, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HOPES TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND ITS ACTIVITIES TO THE POINT WHERE IT COULD HANDLE TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN JAPAN AND LDC'S. AGAIN FATHER HESBURGH STATED THAT NOW WAS THE TIME TO START DOING SOMETHING FOR THE WORLD'S POOR, THAT A DEDICATED CRUSADE WAS NEEDED, AND THAT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WERE NEITHER GOOD OR BAD IN THEMSELVES BUT SHOULD BE APPLIED TO CORRECT INJUSTICE AND INEQUITY. MIYAZAKI COMPLETELY AGREED WITH THIS PHILOSOPHY BUT EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT LDC'S THEMSELVES SEEMED TO BE MORE INTERESTED IN A CODE ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER COVERING THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY RATHER THAN IN THE MORE APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGIES NEEDED BY THE POOR. HE CONTINUED THAT THE NEWLY INDUSTRIALIZED LDC'S ARE THE MOST VOCAL IN INTERNATIONAL FORA, AND IN HIS EXPERIENCE THEY COULD NOT STAFF AND MAINTAIN FACILITIES EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD THE MONEY TO PURCHASE THEM INITIALLY. FATHER HESBURGH AGREED THAT LDC'S REQUIRED SUITABLE INFRASTRUCTURE AND MATURE INTERNAL JUDGMENT FOR ACQUISITION OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY, AND RECOMMENDED REGIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT FROM BANGKOK AS "VERY REASONABLE" IN THIS RESPECT. MIYAZAKI COMMENTED THAT SEA COUNTRIES APPEARED TO BE MORE MODERATE IN THEIR DEMANDS, COMPARED TO THOSE IN AFRICA OR LATIN AMERICA. FATHER HESBURGH COMMENDED TO MIYAZAKI'S ATTENTION THE NORTH-SOUTH ROUND TABLE BEING ESTABLISHED BY BARBARA WARD (WITH POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE FROM WORLD BANK) AS TYPE OF ORGANIZATION WHICH COULD AIR MUCH OF RHETORIC FROM LDC'S BEFORE U.N. CONFERENCE IS HELD, THEREBY PERMITTING UNCSTD TO AVOID UNCONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE. FATHER HESBURGH AND MINISTER MIYAZAKI CONCLUDED MEETING BY AGREEING THAT TWO COUNTRIES COULD WORK TOGETHER EFFECTIVELY IN TRYING TO INSURE SUCCESS OF UNCSTD AND TOWARD THIS END SHOULD EXCHANGE THE LATEST DRAFTS OF THEIR COUNTRY REPORTS.

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4. FATHER HESBURGH AND AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD THEN HELD SOMEWHAT SHORTER MEETING WITH VICE MINISTER KEISUKE ARITA OF MOFA. GROUND COVERED WAS SIMILAR TO THAT REPORTED ABOVE.

5. LAST MEETING OF MORNING WAS WITH TASABURO KUMAGAI, MINISTER OF STATE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY, TOGETHER WITH OTHER SENIOR STA OFFICIALS. AFTER HEARING FATHER HESBURGH DESCRIBE U.S. EFFORTS ON UNCSTD, KUMAGAI STATED HIS COMPLETE

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FOR AMB. JEAN WILKOWSKI; OES

UNDERSTANDING AND OFFERED TO COOPERATE WITH U.S. IN PROMOTING CONFERENCE. HE DESIGNATED KAZUO YAMAGUCHI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PROMOTION BUREAU, AS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR STA INVOLVEMENT IN CONFERENCE. KUMAGAI EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT GOJ DOES NOT YET HAVE A UNIFIED APPROACH TOWARD LDC'S, AND HE HAS THEREFORE MADE HIS OWN PLANS. ONE ACTIVITY NOW BEING STRUCTURED BY HIS AGENCY IS AN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE EXPOSITION TO BE HELD IN JAPAN IN 1984. AGAIN, BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO INSURE A SUBSTANTIVE U.N. CONFERENCE, DEVOID TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE OF RHETORIC.

6. COMMENT: FATHER HESBURGH'S ENTHUSIASM, DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF WORLD CONDITIONS, AND LONG EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS ALL CAME TO THE FORE IN HIS CONTACTS WITH JAPANESE OFFICIALS. WE BELIEVE THAT HIS STATURE

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AND PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE WITH HIGHEST LEVELS OF U.S.
GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION, AND INDUSTRY MADE DEEP IMPRESSION
ON HOSTS WHICH WILL SMOOTH WAY FOR ENHANCED JAPANESE
PARTICIPATION IN UNCSTD. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING
FOUR COPIES OF RELEASABLE VERSION OF U.S. NATIONAL REPORT
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FOR DELIVERY TO GOJ IN CONFORMANCE WITH AGREEMENT MADE,
AND WILL SOLICIT RECEIPT OF JAPANESE REPORT IN RETURN.
END COMMENT: MANSFIELD

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